

**BETTER BUILDINGS ACCELERATORS**

Better Buildings Accelerators are targeted, short-term, partner-focused activities designed to address persistent barriers that stand in the way of greater efficiency. They have clearly defined objectives, bringing together a collection of key stakeholders who commit themselves to affect change and make substantive progress overcoming key barriers within specific time-frames. Since 2013, 10 Accelerators have been launched, and over 130 organizations have collaborated to overcome common challenges. Already one Accelerator has successfully accomplished objectives and ended activities, and two more Accelerators are expected to successfully complete activities in 2016.

**Energy Data Accelerator**

The Better Buildings Energy Data Accelerator (BBEDA) was a two-year partnership with cities and utilities to improve energy efficiency by expanding energy data accessibility. As a result of best practices developed by BBEDA partners, 18 utilities serving more than 2.6 million commercial customers nationwide will provide whole-building energy data access to building owners by 2017. This historic expansion of data access will increase building energy benchmarking, the first step many building owners take to improve energy efficiency. Accelerator partners identified and implemented best practices that will help utilities overcome traditional barriers to data access solutions.

- ▶ Mapping Meters to Buildings.
- ▶ Simplify Tenant Authorizations and Streamline Data Transfer.
- ▶ For a collection of resources visit the [Energy Data Access: Blueprint for Action](#)

**New 2016 Accelerators**

**Combined Heat and Power (CHP) for Resiliency Accelerator:** As a collaborative effort with states, communities, utilities, and other stakeholders the Accelerator will examine the perceptions of CHP among resiliency planners, identify gaps in current technologies or information relative to resilience needs, and support the development of plans for communities that capitalize on CHP's strengths as a reliable, high efficiency, lower emissions electricity and thermal energy source for critical infrastructure.

**Clean Energy for Low Income Communities Accelerator:** The Accelerator will encourage the development of partnerships and replicable models and identify funding options that a state-level agency, local government, or utility program could use to provide energy efficiency and renewable energy access to communities that need them most. Accelerator Partners are exploring different avenues to an integrated approach, which could better increase access and demand of energy efficiency and distributed renewables in low income communities.

**Wastewater Infrastructure Accelerator:** The Accelerator aims to catalyze the adoption of innovative and best-practice approaches in data management, technologies, and financing. With the support of technical expertise and peer exchange, participating water resource recovery facilities will design infrastructure improvement plans that will seek to improve the energy efficiency of their facilities and operations by at least 30% and ideally integrate at least one resource recovery measure.

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**BETTER BUILDINGS ACCELERATORS****Energy Savings Performance Contracting (ESPC) Accelerator**

Launched in 2013, 24 partners have committed to investing \$2 billion in ESPCs, and to sharing data on projects and results. In 2016, ESPC Accelerator partners have focused on optimizing measurement and verification for ESPC projects and sharing successful strategies for overcoming key process, framework, and market barriers to ESPC.

Each ESPC partner has worked with the DOE to overcome a specific barrier hindering efforts to streamline the ESPC process, build an ESPC infrastructure, or stimulate projects in target markets.

**Data Center Accelerator**

Twenty-three organizations are working with DOE to reduce the infrastructure energy intensity relative to their IT energy for one or more of their data centers by 25% over a five year period. Partners include Federal agencies, national laboratories, higher education facilities, private businesses, and a state government. Over the past year, many of the accelerator partners have been installing the metering to gather the baseline energy and annual energy data that they will use to measure progress. The Data Center Metering and Resource Guide was created to provide an in-depth overview for partners who are still facing challenges in implementing infrastructure-focused metering.

**Home Energy Information Accelerator**

Launched in 2015, this Accelerator brings together 29 partners who are working to make home energy information, such as a home's efficiency certification or its estimated energy usage, readily available at relevant points in residential real estate transactions. National partners help to identify existing assets or work together to fill information gaps, while local partner groups in seven markets seek to demonstrate replicable approaches to make energy-related information easily available to home buyers and sellers through multiple listing services (MLS) and other reports.

**Home Upgrade Program Accelerator**

Administrators of energy efficiency programs are working together, and with DOE, to bring more home energy upgrade services to homes across the country. Partners are working to improve and expand programs while minimizing program costs, with new approaches in information technology and adopting common data standards to streamline data exchange. In 2015, partners focused on putting in place processes supported by enhanced software infrastructure to reduce the costs of running energy upgrade programs. Future activities will focus on developing tools to help partners implement and measure the impact of process improvements.

**Superior Energy Performance (SEP) Accelerator**

This Accelerator is a two-prong effort that supports manufacturers, commercial business, utilities, and program administrators to develop and deploy strategic energy management systems in industrial and large energy-using commercial facilities and building complexes. Ratepayer-funded partners engage utilities and program administrators to include ISO 50001 and SEP in their program designs for industrial and commercial customers. Enterprise-wide partners work with DOE to create a deployment strategy for SEP on an enterprise-wide level, and to verify energy performance for all facilities seeking SEP certification.

**Outdoor Lighting Accelerator**

DOE is working with state and local governments and regional networks to exchange more than 1.5 million lighting fixtures by December 2016 as part of the President's Outdoor Lighting Challenge. Sixteen cities, 6 regional networks (working with many cities) and 3 states are currently partnering with DOE to find solutions to financial, regulatory, and technical barriers, helping to accelerate these exchanges.